

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY
MAYOR



CITY HALL
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
TEL: (201) 547-5200
FAX: (201) 547-4288

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 24, 2009

Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

Mayor Healy to Raise Dominican Flag Over City Hall In Celebration of 165 Years of Independence

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, members of the **Municipal Council**, and the **Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Cultural Affairs** will raise the Dominican flag over City Hall at **5:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, February 25, 2009, 280 Grove Street.**

“The Dominican community continues to make outstanding accomplishments to our city every day,” said **Mayor Healy**. “In raising their flag alongside the American flag we are celebrating not only the triumphs of Dominican-Americans, but also the incredible impact that they have made to Jersey City.”

The **Dominican Republic** occupies the eastern two-thirds of the island of Hispaniola, in the Greater Antilles. Originally explored and claimed by Christopher Columbus on his first voyage in 1492, the island of Hispaniola became a springboard for Spanish conquest of the Caribbean and the American mainland. In 1697, Spain recognized French dominion over the western third of the island, which in 1804 became Haiti. The remainder of the island, by then known as Santo Domingo, sought to gain its own independence in 1821, but was conquered and ruled by the Haitians for 22 years. In February 1844, the country finally attained independence as the Dominican Republic in 1844 and is celebrated on February 27th of each year.

The flag raising is co- sponsored by the Jersey City Juan Pablo Duarte Dominican Parade and Festival Board.

For more information regarding the Flag Raising, please contact the Division of Cultural Affairs at 201-547-6921.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///